



DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2015

TO: MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL

FROM: CALDER HIBBARD, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: PREPARATION FOR NOVEMBER 18, 2015 MFRC MEETING

In preparation for the November 18, 2015 meeting of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC), attached are the following materials (those related to action items are in **bold**):

1. This cover memo.
2. **Draft minutes for the September 22, 2015 MFRC meeting.**
3. **Draft agenda for the November 18, 2015 MFRC meeting.**
4. Committee reports.

Meeting Logistics

The MFRC will meet on November 18, 2015, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in the Stine Room at the **Cloquet Forestry Center** located at 175 University Road in Cloquet, Minnesota. Directions to the meeting are provided below.

From I-35, take the Highway 210 exit (adjacent to the Black Bear Casino), and go west 2.7 miles. Turn right on Highway 5 (a sign for the Forestry Center will guide you) and follow it north for 2.7 miles. The entrance to the Cloquet Forestry Center is on your left. For more information about Cloquet Forestry Center, call 218/726-6400, or visit <http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu>.

Meeting Agenda

Committee of the Whole: Biomass policy opportunities for Minnesota

Kathleen Preece will introduce Amanda Bilek, Great Plains Institute, who will review biomass policy opportunities for Minnesota. Amanda will discuss opportunities around advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, biomass thermal, and combined heat and power.

Clean Power Plan policy update

Anna Dirkswager, DNR Forestry Division, will speak about the Clean Power Plan and its potential impact on wood energy markets in Minnesota.

Strategic vision for the MFRC

Kathleen Preece and Calder Hibbard will briefly discuss past MFRC strategic planning efforts, current needs, and solicit comments regarding the need and nature of a revised strategic vision.

Status of competitiveness report recommendations

Kathleen Preece and Calder Hibbard will present the findings of the Information Management Committee regarding the status of the Forest Industry Competitiveness Report recommendations. This is meant to inform a discussion of the status of the recommendations and also begin the process of formulating a prioritized list of future actions. This may inform an action item at the next regular MFRC meeting.

North Central Landscape Plan revision

Shaun Hamilton and Lindberg Ekola will discuss plans for revising the North Central Landscape Plan. This is likely to lead to an action item at the next regular MFRC meeting in order to initiate the revision process.

*Denotes action item